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ABSTRACT

In 1983-84, a follow-up study was conducted of students who graduated from LaGuardia Community College (LCC) between 1973 and 1979 to provide information on the number of students entering the labor market; the types of positions they received; the industries in which they found employment; and their starting salaries. Questionnaires were sent to 2,327 graduates, who were deemed reachable on the basis of two earlier studies, and responses were received from 670 (28.8%). Study findings revealed: (1) the average salary for 1973 graduates was $20,250, while 1979 graduates earned an average of $15,769; (2) data processing graduates had the highest starting salary ($10,639) and the highest percentage increase in salary over the period (109%); (3) occupational therapy graduates reported the lowest increase in salary (55%); (4) 63% of the graduates continued their education after graduation from LCC, and 53% of these had attained a bachelor's degree or better by mid-1983; (5) rates of transfer were highest among human services graduates (82%) and liberal arts graduates (78%), and lowest among data processing (39%) and secretarial science (37%) graduates; and (6) 50% of the employed graduates had remained with their first employer. (HB)

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A FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF LaGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S 1973-1979 GRADUATES

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A FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF LaGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S 1973-1979 GRADUATES

As an educational institution that is totally committed to career/cooperative education (CCE), it is appropriate that the college look at the performance of its graduates in the labor market as a key measure of its educational effectiveness. In its catalog, LaGuardia Community College states that a primary mission of the college is:

> .....quality career programs for students who plan to enter the labor market on a technical or para-professional level after graduation;
> .....transfer programs for students who plan to complete baccalaureate programs at a four-year college or university.

This mission is in tune with the primary reason that has been consistently cited by entering freshman for going to college: improvement of their economic status.

Each year since 1973, when LaGuardia Community College graduated its first class, the college has sought to conduct a follow-up study of the graduates approximately three to six months after graduation. The purpose of these studies was to obtain information on the number of students entering the labor market with an Associate Degree, the types of positions received, industries in which they found employment and their starting salaries. Consequently, the data showed that LaGuardia students fared well in the labor market with high percentage of graduates who sought employment finding a job in their area of interest. The vast majority tended to be employed by a cooperative education employer and, on the average, they appeared to receive a higher starting salary than was reported by the Middle Atlantic Career Counseling Association (MACCA) for two-year college graduates within the region.

Although the college's graduates do well in the beginning, it can be argued that successful implementation of its CCE philosophy should result in graduates not only sustaining their original advantage in the labor market, but showing growth and advancement as reflected by salary advances and promotional advancement. Otherwise, it could be concluded that the initial advantage of LaGuardia graduates in the labor market may reflect nothing more than the 9 months work experience obtained through the Cooperative Education Program. In order to look at this issue the college has conducted three longitudinal follow-up studies of its graduates. The first in 1978 which analyzed 1973-75 graduates, the second in 1980 analyzing 1973-1977 graduates and this current study conducted in 1983-84.

The three studies coupled with the yearly "Graduate Placement Report" provide a comprehensive indepth view of LaGuardia graduates' performance both in the labor market and at subsequent institution institutions of higher learning.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

-- 1973 Graduates are earning an average salary of $20,250 with a range of $14,144 - $40,000. (p. 3)

-- 1974 Graduates are earning an average salary of $20,427 with a range of $10,400 - $45,000. (p. 3)

-- 1975 Graduates are earning an average salary of $19,162 with a range of $10,000 - $40,500. (p. 3)

-- 1976 Graduates are earning an average salary of $17,845 with a range of $9,000 - $38,000. (p. 3)

-- 1977 Graduates are earning an average salary of $18,051 with a range of $7,176 - $40,000. (p. 3)

-- 1978 Graduates are earning an average salary of $17,470 with a range of $9,100 - $30,000. (p. 3)

-- 1979 Graduates are earning an average salary of $15,769 with a range of $9,000 - $30,000. (p. 3)

-- Data Processing and Accounting graduates report the highest salary gains. (p. 4)

-- Occupational Therapy graduates report the lowest salary gains. (p. 4)

-- In some curricular areas there is a positive correlation between post LaGuardia education and current salary. (pp. 5-6)

-- The positive correlation between post LaGuardia education and current salary increases over time spent in the labor market. (pp.6-7)

-- 63% of the 1973-1979 graduates continued their education after graduation. (p. 8)

-- Of those graduates who continued their education 56% have attained a Bachelors Degree or better as of 6/83. (p. 8)

-- Human Services graduates 82% and Liberal Arts graduates 78% transfer to senior institutions at the highest rate. (p.9)

-- Data Processing graduates 39% and Secretarial Science graduates 37% transfer at the lowest rate. (p. 9)

-- More LaGuardia graduates transfer to Baruch than any other C.U.N.Y. college. (p. 10)

-- 38% of LaGuardia's graduates transfer outside C.U.N.Y. (p.15)

-- Of those graduates earning a Bachelors Degree 33% obtain it within two years after graduating LaGuardia, 59% within three years. (p. 11)

-- Graduates who obtain an advanced degree take from 3-9 years after graduating from LaGuardia to do so. (p. 12).

-- 50% of the employed graduates have remained with their first employer. (pp. 13-14)

A FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF LaGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S 1973 - 1979 GRADUATES

This follow-up study, the third longitudinal analysis of LaGuardia graduates will continue to provide analysis of how LaGuardia graduates perform as post community college graduates. While specifics such as salary, additional education, job stability and job complexity will be reviewed in depth, one will also be able to derive certain non-specific or global outcomes of LaGuardia graduates from the data presented. The outcomes presented are for all LaGuardia graduates irrespective of day or evening attendance, full or part-time undergraduate status, or whether the graduates participated in LaGuardia's Cooperative Education Program. LaGuardia's undergraduate student population represents a true cross section of the traditional college population. While the majority of LaGuardia students come directly from high school, others are gainfully employed and come to the college to hone their skills or gain the educational requirements needed for advancement, and a third segment while employed are looking for a career change and see LaGuardia as a primary vehicle. LaGuardia Community College attempts to meet the educational needs of these primary groups by providing them with comprehensive courses of study, a cooperative education program and a variety of support services designed to help students make the adjustment to the responsibilities of college.

DATA COLLECTION:

LaGuardia Community College graduated 4514 students in the period encompassing 1973- 1979. Based upon the data collected from the prior longitudinal studies [1] [2] and other mailings to graduates, certain graduates were deemed unreachable, as earlier attempts to reach these graduates resulted in the letters being returned by the postal service. Each graduate deemed reachable was sent a questionnaire, a second questionnaire was mailed after three weeks if there was no response. 641 graduates responded to the mail questionnaire and an additional 29 graduates were contacted randomly by telephone yielding a total response of 670 graduates. These 670 graduates represent 15% of the graduate population, with an effective response rate* of 28.8%.

TABLE I - RESPONSE BY YEAR OF GRADUATION :

YEAR OF GRADUATION	# OF GRADUATES	REACHABLE GRADUATES	RESPONDING GRADUATES	EFFECTIVE RESPONSE*	% OF ALL GRADS RESPONDING
1973	246	121	21	17.4%	8.5%
1974	454	83	42	50.6%	9.3%
1975	709	206	93	45.1%	13.1%
1976	795	354	116	32.8%	14.6%
1977	796	454	104	22.9%	13.1%
1978	702	505	141	27.9%	20.1%
1979	768	604	153	25.3%	19.9%
TOTAL	4470	2327	670	28.8%	15.0%

*Effective response rate is the percentage of graduates who responded to the questionnaire as a total of all graduates who received a questionnaire. i.e. total questionnaires received/questionnaires sent minus undeliverable.

1. Professor Jeffrey Weintraub - A preliminary Analysis of LaGuardia Community College's 1973-1975 Graduates. November 1978
2. Professor Jeffrey Weintraub - A follow-up Study of LaGuardia Community College's 1973-1977 Graduates. November 1981

SAMPLE REPRESENTATIVENESS:

In examining the response rate by the year of graduation there is an over-representation of the Class of 1979 and conversely an underrepresentation of the Classes of 1973 and 1974. This is due to the difficulty of keeping in touch with the 1973 and 1974 graduates who may have moved numerous times in the 8-9 years since graduation.

TABLE II - GRADUATION YEAR SAMPLING:

	# GRADS	%	# RESPONDING	%
1973	246	5.5%	21	3.4%
1974	454	10.2%	42	6.3%
1975	709	15.9%	93	13.9%
1976	795	17.8%	116	17.3%
1977	796	17.8%	104	15.6%
1978	723	22.0%	141	21.0%
1979	773	17.3%	153	22.8%
TOTAL	4470	100.%	670	100.%

The response rate by LaGuardia curriculum (major) indicates a slight over-representation of Secretarial graduates and similar underrepresentation of Business graduates. These variances are similar to those cited in previous longitudinal studies and will have a negligible effect in the statistical analysis.

TABLE III - LaGUARDIA CURRICULUM SAMPLING :

	# GRADS	%	# RESPONSES	%	VARIANCE
Accounting	480	10.7%	58	8.7%	- 2.0%
Business Administration	787	17.6%	97	14.5%	- 3.1%
Data Processing	391	8.7%	59	8.8%	+ .1%
Liberal Arts	1122	25.1%	160	23.9%	- 1.2%
Secretarial Science	700	15.7%	128	19.1%	+ 3.4%
Ed. Assoc.	365	8.2%	57	8.5%	+ .3%
Human Services	473	10.6%	78	11.6%	+ 1.0%
Occupational Therapy	152	3.4%	29	4.3%	+ .9%
Unknown	---	---	4	.6%	+ .6%
TOTAL	4470	100. %	670	100. %	- 0 -

SALARY:

The following series of tables will examine the salaries of LaGuardia graduates from date of graduation thru April 1983. While salary alone in many instances is construed as a level of success, this report will not only look at salary, but at salary combined with additional educational achievement, salaries within curricular areas, and salaries compared to the cost of living to give a full view of LaGuardia graduates' earning power.

Because of insufficient numbers of respondents salary data cannot be broken out individually by both major and year of graduation. Instead separate tables of salaries by major and salaries by year of graduation will be presented and discussed.

Table IV shows the April 1983 salaries of the respective classes compared to the average starting salaries reported at the time of graduation. The average starting salary was then adjusted for inflation through the consumer price index, and while inflationary increases make up a large percentage of the increase, over and above inflation all classes report average salaries increases greater than inflation.

TABLE IV - SALARIES BY YEAR OF GRADUATION:

YEAR OF GRADUATION	N	MEAN STARTING SALARY (MSS)	MEAN SALARY 4/83	SALARY RANGE 4/83	PERCENT INCREASE	MSS ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION[1]	% INCREASE ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION	AVERAGE[2] YEARLY INCREASE ABOVE INFLATION
1973	13	$ 7,300	$20,250	$14,144-$40,000	277	$14,892	136	3.4%
1974	29	8,049	20,427	10,400- 45,000	255	15,263	134	3.6%
1975	74	8,051	19,162	10,000- 40,500	237	14,474	132	3.9%
1976	82	8,209	17,845	9,000- 38,000	217	13,791	129	4.2%
1977	67	8,609	18,051	7,176- 40,000	210	13,447	134	6.0%
1978	95	9,416	17,470	9,100- 30,000	185	13,918	123	5.5%
1979	101	10,453	15,769	9,000- 30,000	151	12,909	122	6.2%

1. Consumer Price Index supplied by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.
2. Adjusted for the average number of years in the labor market.

In Table V the mean starting salary of all respondents are grouped by major as are the April 1983 salaries. While this table does not factor in such variable as length of time in the labor market it does provide a comparison of salaries within curricular areas.

The data shows that on the whole Data Processing graduates have the highest starting salary, the highest current salary and the greatest (109%) percentage increase. Conversely Human Services graduates have the lowest starting salary, the lowest current salary and the second lowest(67%) percentage increase. In general salary of graduates in curricular areas geared for entry in the private sector Accounting, Business, Data Processing, and Secretarial Science show the highest salaries and the greatest overall increases, while the curricular areas whose graduates are hired by the public or non-profit sector, Liberal Arts, Occupational Therapy, and Human Services show the lowest salaries and lowest overall increases. One incongruency to the above theory are the relatively high starting salaries reported by Occupational Therapy graduates.

TABLE V - CURRENT SALARY BY LaGUARDIA MAJOR:

CURRICLUM	N	STARTING SALARY	N	APRIL '83	PERCENTAGE INCREASE
Accounting	43	$ 9,459	44	$19,554	107%
Business	61	10,474	57	19,136	83%
Human Services	53	8,689	54	14,498	67%
Secretarial Science	106	9,556	105	18,590	95%
Liberal Arts	85	9,531	85	16,513	73%
Occupational Therapy	22	10,361	13	16,027	55%
Data Processing	52	10,639	52	22,213	109%
TOTAL	422	$ 9,740	410	$18,178	87%

Table VI shows the salary breakout within major by educational achievement. For ease of analysis the table divides the educational achievement into three sub-groups: A.A., additional credits above the A.A. but less than a Bachelors degree and a Bachelors degree or higher.

In all curricular areas except Secretarial Science, students who obtained a Bachelors degree are earning more than those who haven't. Graduates who took or are currently taking undergraduate courses but haven't earned their degree are on the average earning less than those who haven't taken any additional course work. Most likely two variables account for this. 1) The loss of time in the labor market if the student attended full-time and 2) many promotions, salary steps, etc., are based on B.A. attainment with no intermediate salary rewards prior to earning the B.A.. Business, Accounting, and Data Processing graduates salaries showed the greatest increase when a minimum of a B.A. was attained while for Secretarial Science students there appears to be little salary difference among the additional educational level.

Tables VII A & B collapse two of the three educational achievement variables respectively to show a direct comparison of two sub-groups. In Table A, salaries of all students with less than B.A. are compared with those who have attained a B.A.. While no curricular areas graduates lose ground if they obtain a B.A., Secretarial Science graduates show very insignificant gains. Accounting, Business and Data Processing graduates show the greatest increases. Overall, and unweighted for differing response rates within major, a LaGuardia graduate with a B.A. degree is earning $19,426 which is 13.8% greater than the $16,916 his/her counterpart is earning with the B.A. degree.

Table VII B looks at the effect of any additional education irrespective of attainment level on salary compared to no additional education. Graduates with business degrees showed the greatest gains while two majors Accounting and Human Services actually reported lower salaries on the average for graduates with additional education. The unweighted average shows a 7% greater salary for those who continued their education as compared to those who haven't. The weighted average which is weighted in proportion to response by curriculum show a scant 1.3% positive salary differential between those who continued their education and those who didn't.

TABLE VI - CURRENT SALARY BY ADDITIONAL EDUCATION WITHIN MAJOR

MAJOR	N	NO ADD'L EDUCATION	N	SOME ADDED LESS THAN BA	N	BA OR HIGHER
Accounting	16	$20,609	17	$16,555	11	$22,655
Business	17	16,132	16	18,794	24	21,490
Data Processing	34	21,723	11	21,389	7	25,855
Secretarial Science	65	18,491	28	19,069	9	18,966
Liberal Arts	23	15,193	21	16,380	41	17,321
Occupational Therapy	13	15,543	2	14,000	7	17,487
Human Services	10	14,755	13	13,383	31	14,883
Other[1]	14	14,570	7	12,353	21	14,812
ALL	192	$17,956	115	$17,250	151	$18,026

TABLE VII A

MAJOR	N	LESS THAN BA	N	BA OR HIGHER	PERCENT INCREASE
Accounting	33	$18,520	11	$22,655	22.3%
Business	33	17,422	24	21,490	23.3%
Data Processing	45	21,641	7	25,885	20.0%
Secretarial Science	93	18,665	9	18,966	.2%
Liberal Arts	44	15,759	41	17,321	9.9%
Occupational Therapy	15	15,337	7	17,487	14.0%
Human Services	23	13,979	31	14,883	6.1%
Other[1]	21	14,010	21	14,812	35.1%
ALL	307	$17,700	151	$18,026	0.2%
UNWEIGHTED		$16,916		$19,187	13.5%

1. Includes all undecided and unknown majors as well as Bilingual and Ed Associates.

TABLE VII B

MAJOR	N	NO ADDITIONAL EDUCATION	N	ANY ADDITIONAL EDUCATION	PERCENT
Accounting	16	$20,609	28	$18,951	- 8.0%
Business	17	16,132	40	20,413	+26.5%
Data Processing	34	21,723	18	23,139	+ 6.5%
Secretarial Science	65	18,491	39	18,751	+ 1.4%
Liberal Arts	23	15,193	62	17,003	+11.9%
Occupational Therapy	13	15,543	9	16,711	+ 7.5%
Human Services	10	14,755	44	14,440	- 2.1%
Other	14	14,570	28	14,917	+ 2.0%
All	192	$17,956	268	$17,690	- 1.0%
Unweighted		$17,127		$18,336	+ 7.1%

Table VIII shows the current mean salary of each graduation year with respect to the graduates educational level. Educational levels are broken out into three sub-groups, no additional education, some additional education but not a B.A., and a B.A. or better for salary comparison. As was previously discussed on the whole graduates who continue their education but do not obtain a B.A. are earning less than those graduates who never took additional courses. Table VIII shows however that graduates of 1973 and 1974 with some added education are earning more than their counterparts who did not continue. For all other years this is not the case. The number of respondents from 1973 and 1974 are extremely low and may not be a representative sample. Of the seven years survey, graduates of five of the seven years who've earned B.A. degrees are earning more than those graduates who didn't with the exceptions being 1976 and 1977.

Table VIIIA compresses the salary data into two sub-groups less than a B.A., and a B.A. or better. The data shows that the salary differential is positively correlated to length of time in the labor market. Graduates who enter the labor market with a B.A. may start at salaries lower than their counterparts who have worked continually since obtaining their A.A. degree but their salaries will eventually surpass their non degree counter parts.

Table VIIIB compresses the salary data into two sub-groups, those who continued their education and those who didn't with no distinction given for any specific academic achievement. The data indicate that with the exception of 1973 and 1974 graduates the average salaries are very similar for both groups, and that salary lost by going to school full-time is not easily made up especially if the graduate does not get a degree.

CURRENT SALARY BY ADDITIONAL EDUCATION WITH GRADUATION YEAR

TABLE VIII

GRAD YEAR	N	NO ADDITIONAL EDUCATION	N	SOME ADDED LESS THAN BA	N	BA OR HIGHER
1973	4	$16,861	5	$19,191	4	$24,962
1974	11	17,389	5	23,428	13	21,877
1975	28	18,803	19	18,562	27	19,953
1976	31	19,594	14	17,133	37	16,648
1977	34	18,439	15	18,032	18	17,331
1978	41	17,611	28	17,122	24	17,902
1979	43	16,426	29	14,767	28	15,757
All	192	$17,956	115	$17,250	151	$18,026

TABLE VIIIA

GRAD YEAR	N	LESS THAN BA	N	BA OR HIGHER	PERCENT
1973	9	$18,155	4	$24,962	+37.5%
1974	16	19,276	13	21,877	+13.5%
1975	47	18,705	27	19,956	+ 6.7%
1976	45	18,283	37	16,648	- 8.9%
1977	49	18,314	18	17,331	- 5.7%
1978	69	17,412	24	17,902	+ 2.8%
1979	72	15,757	28	15,757	----
All	307	$17,700	151	$18,026	+ .2%

TABLE VIIIB

GRAD YEAR	N	NO ADDED EDUCATION	N	ANY ADDED EDUCATION	PERCENTAGE
1973	4	$16,861	9	$21,755	+29.0%
1974	11	17,389	18	22,307	+28.0%
1975	28	18,803	46	19,378	+ 3.0%
1976	31	19,594	51	16,781	-14.0%
1977	34	18,439	33	17,649	- 4.0%
1978	41	17,611	52	17,482	- 1.0%
1979	43	16,426	57	15,253	- 7.0%
All	192	$17,956	266	$17,690	-0.1%

Table IX reflects the educational achievement of the graduates broken out by year of graduation. There appears to be a relatively consistent number of graduates who fall into each subgroup. Overall 37% of those sampled did not continue their education, 63% did. 30% of the graduates have attained a Bachelors Degree and 5% a Masters Degree. The transfer rate of graduates between 1974-1979 fluctuated between 59%-67% while the Bachelors Degree attainment rate is lower in later years '77-'79, most likely indicating many students are still enrolled and haven't completed their course of study as of this writing.

Of 423 graduates who did transfer, 237 (56%) have attained a Bachelors Degree or higher. The 56% attainment rate, of those who transferred, is almost exactly the same as the 55% reported in the last survey January 1980.

TABLE IX - ADDITIONAL EDUCATION BY YEAR OF GRADUATION

GRAD YEAR	NO ADDED EDUCATION	SOME ADDED EDUCATION	B. A.	M. A.	Ph. D.	TOTAL
1973	5 (24%)	8 (38%)	5 (24%)	3 (14%)	--	21
1974	14 (33%)	8 (19%)	14 (33%)	5 (12%)	1 (2%)	42
1975	32 (34%)	24 (26%)	32 (34%)	5 (5%)	--	93
1976	42 (36%)	24 (21%)	44 (38%)	6 (5%)	-- --	116
1977	43 (41%)	26 (25%)	27 (26%)	8 (8%)	--	104
1978	55 (39%)	40 (28%)	41 (29%)	5 (4%)	--	141
1979	56 (37%)	56 (37%)	39 (26%)	2 (1%)	--	153
	247 (37%)	186 (28%)	202 (30%)	34 (5%)	1	670

There are three curricular areas whose graduates continue their education at a rate much higher than the norm (63%) and attain a Bachelors Degree or better at a rate greater than the norm (35%). These curricula as shown on Table X are Liberal Arts 78% continuance, 52% degree attainment, Human Service 82% and 51%, and Bil Ed Assoc. 75% and 52%. Conversely there are two curricular areas whose graduates display the lowest transfer and attainment rate. Secretarial Science 37% transfer, 12% attainment and Data Processing 39% and 13% respectively.

TABLE X - ADDITIONAL EDUCATION BY LaGUARDIA MAJOR

LaGUARDIA MAJOR	NO ADDED EDUCATION	SOME ADDED EDUCATION	B.A.	M.A.	Ph.D	TOTAL
Accounting	19 (33%)	22 (38%)	16 (27%)	1 (2%)	--	58
Data Processing	36 (61%)	15 (25%)	6 (10%)	2 (3%)	--	59
Secretarial Science	81 (63%)	32 (25%)	14 (11%)	1 (1%)	--	128
Liberal Arts	35 (22%)	41 (26%)	72 (45%)	11 (7%)	1	160
Business Administration	30 (31%)	32 (33%)	33 (34%)	2 (2%)	--	97
Occupational Therapy	15 (52%)	6 (21%)	8 (27%)	--	--	29
Human Services	14 (18%)	24 (31%)	31 (40%)	9 (11%)	--	78
Bil Ed Assoc.	14 (25%)	13 (23%)	22 (38%)	8 (14%)	--	57
Unknown	3 (75%)	1 (25%)	--	--	--	4
	247 (37%)	186 (28%)	202 (30%)	34 (5%)	1	670

Of the 670 students responding 428 (64%) transferred to a senior college sometime after graduation. Of those 428, 106 graduates also attended a second institution, some still attempting to obtain a Bachelors Degree, others in pursuit of a Masters or Professionnal degree. Table XI will show the institutions most favored by LaGuardia graduates.

TABLE XI - SENIOR INSTITUTIONS CHOSEN BY LaGUARDIA GRADUATES

	N	FIRST SCHOOL AFTER GRADUATION		N	SECOND SCHOOL AFTER GRADUATION	
Baruch	72	17%		9	8%	
Brooklyn	10	2%		2	2%	
CCNY	23	5%		2	2%	
Hunter	60	14%		7	7%	
John Jay	15	4%		---	---	
Lehman	5	1%		2	2%	
Queens	75	18%		15	14%	
College of Staten Island	1	---		---	---	
York	45	11%	CUNY 62%	1	1%	CUNY 36%
SUNY	18	4%		4	4%	
Private (Local)	86	20%		55	52%	
Private (Out of Town)	18	4%		9	8%	
	428	100%		106	100%	

These results cannot be compared to previous reports as many of the respondents responded to prior questionnaires, and the first school one transfers to will not change. What is important, is the dramatic difference between the percentage of first time transfers CUNY attracts and the percentage of second time transfers. CUNY goes from 62% of first time transfers to 36% of second transfer. The shift goes directly to the private colleges who attract 60% of the second transferees while only attracting 24% of the first time transfers.

Possible explanations for the shift are: Many students receive tuition refund from their employers and with cost not being a concern factor, transfer to a more conveniently located school, students may have a "you get what you pay for" mentality and feel they will get a better education at a private college, or after two experiences at CUNY schools students want a change.

Tables XIIA and XIIB show the length of time it took LaGuardia graduates to earn their Bachelors Degree. LaGuardia grants Associate Degrees four times per year January, March, June and September. Graduates were identified only by the year of graduation not the specific month, therefore a graduate might have graduated anytime between January and September of their graduation year. This may create some discrepancies in the data as a January graduate would clearly have a head start in earning a degree compared to his/her September counterpart, but over the seven years covered in this survey the distribution within individual graduation years even out.

Table XIIA reports in raw form the years which graduates reported obtaining their Bachelors Degree for each graduation year surveyed.

Table XIIB reports in percent the number of years needed to obtain the B.A. One third of all Bachelors degrees were obtained within two years after LaGuardia graduation, 59% within three years and 81% within four years.

TABLE XIIA - YEAR OF GRADUATION/YEAR OF BACHELOR DEGREE

	N	'74	'75	'76	'77	'78	'79	'80	'81	'82	'83
1973	8	1	1	2	2	--	--	2	--	--	--
1974	20	X	--	11	3	3	1	1	1	--	--
1975	37	X	X	2	12	11	4	5	3	--	--
1976	50	X	X	X	1	10	13	12	7	6	1
1977	35	X	X	X	X	3	10	5	6	10	1
1978	46	X	X	X	X	X	1	12	15	12	6
1979	41	X	X	X	X	X	X	1	15	12	13
	237										

TABLE X11B - NUMBER OF YEARS NEEDED TO OBTAIN BACHELORS DEGREE BY YEAR OF GRADUATION IN PERCENT.

	N	0-2	3	4	5	6	7
1973	8	25%	25%	25%	---	---	25%
1974	20	55%	15%	15%	5%	5%	5%
1975	37	38%	30%	11%	13%	8%	---
1976	50	22%	26%	24%	14%	12%	2%
1977	35	37%	14%	18%	28%	3%	X
1978	46	28%	33%	26%	13%	X	X
1979	41	39%	29%	32%	X	X	X
TOTAL	237	33%	26%	22%	12%	5%	2%

Thirty-seven LaGuardia graduates responding reported obtaining advanced degrees. Table XIII reflects in percent the number of years needed after graduating from LaGuardia to complete the advanced degree. The data show a relatively consistent amount of graduates obtaining advanced degrees between three and seven years after graduating from LaGuardia. Because of the small sample and obvious fact that earlier graduating classes have had considerably more time to obtain advanced degrees than later ones, the data may not accurately reflect how long it takes an average student to obtain an advanced degree.

TABLE XIII - NUMBER OF YEARS NEEDED TO OBTAIN AN ADVANCED DEGREE BY YEAR OF GRADUATION IN PERCENT.

	N	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1973	2	---	100%	---	---	---	---	---
1974	7	---	---	14%	14%	14%	43%	14%
1975	6	33%	16%	16%	---	33%	---	---
1976	8	---	12%	25%	38%	25%	---	---
1977	8	25%	---	25%	50%	---	---	---
1978	4	25%	25%	50%	---	---	---	---
1979	2	100%	---	---	---	---	---	---
TOTAL	37	14%	18%	22%	22%	14%	8%	2%

Students were asked whether they were primarily day or evening students if they transferred to a senior college. First time transferees were almost split, with 45% attending day classes, 49% attending evening and 6% said they attended between day and evening. Second time transfers however showed a shift toward evening attendance with 33% attending days, 62% attending evening and 5% alternating.

TABLE XIV

	FIRST TIME TRANSFEREES		SECOND TRANSFER	
	N	%	N	%
Day	193	45%	35	33%
Evening	206	49%	66	62%
Both	26	6%	5	5%
	428	100%	106	100%

237 of the graduates responding received Bachelors degrees, this includes 34 who also received an M.A. or a Ph. D. Table XV shows the academic accomplishments at first and second transfer schools. The data shows that 96% of the Bachelors Degrees granted, were granted by the school the graduate first transferred to, and that 89% of the advanced degrees (M.A., Ph.D.) were granted by a different school.

TABLE XV

	FIRST TRANSFER SCHOOL		SECOND TRANSFER SCHOOL	
	N	%	N	%
No Degree	196	---	66	---
B.A.	228	96%	9	4%
M.A.	4	11%	30	86%
Ph.D.	---	---	1	3%

The college trains its graduates in both the skills necessary to compete in the labor market, and the "how to's" of finding a job. It is the hope of the college that our graduates become stable successful employees who can make significant contributions to their firms, and while like all employees change jobs from time to time, do not make a career of changing jobs.

TablesXVI A & B show in raw numbers and percent the number of different employers each responding graduate reported by year of graduation. This employer count does not count promotions or lateral changes,only in actual change in employer. The count is for full-time positions only and does not include any part-time positions reported.

The percentages of graduates falling into each of the four categories (1-4 jobs) does not vary very much from year to year except for the 1973 graduates who might be expected to have changed employers more than recent graduates. Over half of the graduates have remained with their first employer, and the average number of employers for each graduate is 1.75.

TABLE XVIA-NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS BY YEAR OF GRADUATION

GRAD YEAR	-1-	-2-	-3-	-4+-	TOTAL	AVERAGE # OF EMPLOYERS
1973	5	6	4	1	16	2.06
1974	17	3	16	2	38	1.97
1975	34	31	12	4	81	1.83
1976	49	27	15	5	96	1.75
1977	42	22	10	5	79	1.72
1978	62	33	19	1	115	1.64
1979	61	33	24	1	119	1.70
TOTAL	270	155	100	19	544	1.75

TABLE XVIIB - NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS BY YEAR OF GRADUATION IN PERCENTAGE

YEAR GRAD	-1-	-2-	-3-	-4+-
1973	31%	38%	24%	6%
1974	45%	8%	42%	5%
1975	42%	38%	15%	5%
1976	51%	28%	16%	5%
1977	53%	28%	13%	6%
1978	54%	29%	17%	--
1979	51%	28%	20%	--
TOTAL	50%	28%	18%	4%

Tables XVIIA & B show the number of employers by the graduates major at LaGuardia. Table XVII A displays the data in its raw form, Table XVII B in percent. The graduates most likely to change employers are Data Processing graduates. Overall these graduates have averaged almost two employers per graduate. There are numerous factors which may have caused this group to be the most mobile. Surely labor market conditions and specific technical skills acquired will make Data Processing graduates desirable to competing firms. Those facts coupled with the low transfer rate of Data Processing graduates which translates to more time in the labor market most likely account for the high rate of employer change. Liberal Arts graduates have displayed the lowest mobility rate at 1.62 which is most likely due to their high transfer rate (less time in the labor market) and a relatively tight labor market in recent years for the types of positions for which these graduates are trained.

TABLE XVII A - NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS BY LaGUARDIA MAJOR

MAJOR	-1-	-2-	-3-	-4+-	TOTAL	AVERAGE # OF EMPLOYERS
Accounting	20	18	14	---	52	1.98
Data Processing	22	15	11	5	53	1.98
Secretarial Science	55	36	25	4	120	1.82
Liberal Arts	62	29	11	4	106	1.59
Occupational Therapy	15	5	5	1	26	1.69
Human Services	31	20	13	3	67	1.82
Business	35	17	13	1	66	1.70
Other	30	15	8	1	54	1.62
TOTAL	270	155	100	19	544	1.75

TABLE XVIIB - NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS BY LaGUARDIA MAJOR IN PERCENT

MAJOR	-1-	-2-	-3-	-4+-
Accounting	38%	35%	27%	-.-
Data Processing	42%	28%	21%	9%
Secretarial Science	46%	30%	21%	3%
Liberal Arts	59%	27%	10%	4%
Occupational Therapy	58%	19%	19%	4%
Human Services	46%	30%	19%	5%
Business	53%	26%	20%	1%
Other	56%	28%	15%	1%
TOTAL	49.6%	28.5%	18.4%	3.5%

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